

## JUNE 23, 2024 MINUTES of Gainesville Bromeliad Society

Steve Provost passed out nametags for some new members (Julie, Cindy, Dottie, Linda, Howard). He then introduced the speaker, Jason Mellica who is a graduate of UF and did field work on bromeliads. He has a website "Advancedbromeliads.com". Jason described how bromeliads are found in nature – most grow in trees in South or Central America. He gave a demonstration on mounting bromeliads on driftwood, using live oak wood found in rivers because it is a hard wood that is long lasting. The most important thing to remember about mounting bromeliads is that they should not be allowed to move as this will inhibit their actually attaching to the wood. Bromeliads can also be mounted to living tree branches or palms.

**Business Meeting.** The meeting began with approval of the May minutes and a reminder that our minutes are posted on the fcbs.org website. Elaine Young gave the Treasurer's report: GBS has \$2,634.25 in checking and \$1,484.03 in savings.

Steve went over the speaker list for the rest of the year: Kenneth Stokes will speak in July on "Everything your mother didn't teach you about water and soil". In August, Greg Kolojeski who is a hobbyist will speak about Aechmeas, and in September Dave Johnston will be our speaker. October will be a garden tour of Susan and Keith Legg's home. November is our holiday meeting and we won't meet in December. Steve asked for suggestions as to what members would like to hear about in the future.

OTHER NEWS: FCBS met last week – Bob and Steven are reps for GBS. A question at the meeting was whether to continue to publish a hard copy of members or just do a pdf file. The FCBS decided to continue with the publication. Also discussed was an Extravaganza in 2025 and where it should be located. More info in October. The World Conference in 2026 will be held in California. The Gainesville Garden Club is inviting vendors for their next sale and has invited GBS to participate. The Board will decide at their next meeting.

Nancy Mason brought 2 plants for show and tell: *Tillandsia caput-medusae* and *Portea orthopoda*. The *Portea* was offered for silent auction.

Jason also offered to sell the demo that he did – it sold for \$45.

The raffle began by calling new members first.

Meeting adjourned about 3:30 with 44 attendees